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## BOOK REVIEWS AND NOTICES.

Among other documents lately received by the librarian of the Association is a reprint made by A. Turner of Houston's official report of the battle of San Jacinto (pp. 16). Although undated, it seems to have been published at Gonzales in 1874. It is the gift of Mrs. Julia Miller, of Gonzales.

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Mr. Lawrence S. Taylor, of Nacogdoches, sends the Association an interesting pamphlet entitled *A History of the Action of the Political and Civil authorities and citizens relating to the land office at Nacogdoches, under the jurisdiction of Charles S. Taylor, Commissioner appointed by the Government of Coahuila and Texas* (Nacogdoches, Carraway's Print, 1901, pp. 14). This pamphlet contains copies of a number of documents the originals of which are in the custody of Mr. Lawrence S. Taylor, son of Charles S. Taylor, and which were published to serve as evidence of Mr. Charles S. Taylor's appointment as land commissioner, and of his official record in that capacity. It is of special interest in that it contains a half-tone engraving of Mr. Charles S. Taylor. Along with other matter, it contains also a list of 176 titles issued by him.

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*Reconstruction and the Ku Klux Klan*, by T. W. Gregory, a paper read before the Arkansas and Texas Bar Associations, July 10, 1906 (privately printed, pp. 22), is a forceful and suggestive essay in which the *raison d'être* of the Klan, the good it accomplished, its abuses, and its unhappy results are alike set forth in frank and impressive statement. It is based partly upon the author's personal recollections and partly on the historical literature of the subject, especially "The Ku Klux Klan," by D. L. Wilson, in the *Century* for July, 1884, and "The Ku Klux Movement," by William Garrott Brown, in the *Atlantic* for May, 1901. This pamphlet is heartily recommended to all readers of THE QUARTERLY who wish to understand the subject with which it deals.

*Lee's Centennial*, an address delivered by Charles Francis Adams at Washington and Lee University, January 19, 1907 (Boston and New York, Houghton, Mifflin and Company, 1907, pp. 76), is an additional bit of the evidence now appearing from time to time that the North and South are at last beginning to understand each other and to appreciate the real difficulties and problems that were created for the honest and conscientious leaders on both sides by sectionalization due to slavery and by the Civil War. Written by a man who served in the Union army throughout the war and who has no apology to offer for having done so, it is at once an unanswerable vindication of Lee and a most magnificent tribute to his achievements and his character. "As to Robert E. Lee, individually," says Mr. Adams, "I can only repeat what I have already said,—if in all respects similarly circumstanced, I hope I should have been filial and unselfish enough to have done as Lee did" (p. 21). Further on he uses still stronger words: "Speaking advisedly and on full reflection, I say that of all the great characters of the Civil War, and it was productive of many whose names and deeds posterity will long bear in recollection, there was not one who passed away in the serene atmosphere and with the gracious bearing of Lee" (p. 57). More than this, it would be difficult to say.

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*Margaret Ballentine or the Fall of the Alamo: A Romance of the Texas Revolution.* By Frank Templeton. Published by the Author. Houston, Texas. 1907. Pp. 244.

*Ramrod Jones, Hunter and Patriot: A Tale of the Texas Revolution against Mexico.* By Clinton Giddings Brown. The Saalfeld Publishing Company. New York and Chicago. Pp. 321.

The avowed purpose of the first book is "to pay a deserved tribute to the men who fell at the Alamo." "The many episodes that go to make up the story are strung upon the golden chord of love," and the author says that he will feel repaid for his labor if the volume serves "to keep alive the spirit of patriotism among our people, and to lighten the labors of the Daughters of the Texas Republic in perpetuating the glorious deeds of our ancestors." Mr. Templeton shows some evidence of ability to write serious history, and his knowledge of the period of the Texas Revolution is considerable, but he has not achieved a very happy result in the field

of romance. The illustrations are poor, but one of them is of great historical interest: it purports to be a sketch of W. B. Travis made by Wyly Martin in December, 1835. If it was really made at that time, it gives us the only pretended likeness of the most heroic man that has figured in Texas history.

*Ramrod Jones* is a story for boys. It is written with some skill, and is mildly entertaining. It keeps close to the historical facts of the Texas Revolution, but has no didactic object.

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*The Story of Concord. Told by Concord Writers.* Edited by Josephine Latham Swayne. (Boston: The E. F. Worcester Press. 1906. Pp. 314+viii.)

Every tourist to New England makes a point of visiting Concord, Massachusetts, one of the most interesting small towns of America. There was fought one of the first battles of the American Revolution. There are still to be found the home and the family of Emerson, whose towering personality dominated for so long the intellectual atmosphere of New England, and whose influence is felt strongly today. To others the vicinity of Concord has been made hallowed ground through the writings of the naturalist Thoreau, who, keenly sensitive to the beauties around him, apparently knew every foot of the landscape, and every inhabitant of the land, the water, and the air about his haunts. The Hawthornes, the Alcotts, and many lesser lights in literature shared the society of Emerson and Thoreau, influencing them and feeling their influence.

In the volume under review Mrs. Swayne has not attempted to form a continuous narrative concerning the town and its many heroes. What she has done shows so much labor and care that one regrets that she did not make a book of that kind and give it a definite literary form. Instead she has culled from the writings of certain citizens or *quasi*-citizens of Concord, numerous lengthy comments on the town and its famous characters. So in the chapter, "Concord in History," we have copious extracts from a centennial address delivered by Ralph Waldo Emerson in 1835. In the following chapter, "Concord in Literature," Emerson's character is portrayed by F. B. Sanborn, George William Curtis, and Julian Hawthorne. Mr. Sanborn and Dr. W. T. Harris are quoted